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Miss Odencrantz has given us a sympathetic and scholarly study. Such studies must always present a somewhat blurred picture of the life they undertake to portray. We have the interview, the visit to home and work place, the questionnaire, a few budgets, and a book, while the women go on working with feathers, candy, crackers, corsets, petticoats, cigars, boxes, stationery, cereals, olives, and what not, with an overpowering weariness and unutterably barren lives. But the book is not futile if it leads to even a limited understanding of the problems of some foreign individuals enmeshed in our industrial system.

ANNIE MARION MACLEAN

CHICAGO, ILL.

The Social Case History: Its Construction and Content. By ADA ELIOT SHEFFIELD, Director, Boston Bureau on Illegitimacy. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1920. Pp. 227. \$1.00.

The author proposes that the social-case history include only those facts which make effective treatment possible. Successful use of this test, she believes, involves the development of larger and clearer concepts. Many devices are suggested for accomplishing these aims.

This book is the result of much practical experience and will appeal to those who are interested in higher standards of record-keeping, though administrators will probably think that confusion will result from any attempt to make everyday use of larger concepts not previously clearly defined. Further, treatment as a measure of the record-value of a social fact is a useful yardstick (1) when workers are uniformly trained to use and provided with adequate standardized administrative devices; (2) when the appearance of new methods of treatment need not be anticipated during the life of the record; and (3) when social-service policies have been generally agreed upon. Until these conditions obtain, if treatment-value be the test of the relative significance of social facts to the recorder, records must be re-written with changes in the personnel, policy, or procedure of the agency and with every advance in the social sciences.

ERLE FISKE YOUNG

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Housing and the Housing Problem. By CAROL ARONOVICI. Chicago: McClurg & Co., 1920. Pp. 163. \$0.75.

This is a brief statement of the principles involved in a housing program. An attempt is made to point out the fundamental social